

2 I-17 ramps to be closed for 1 year

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NORTH VALLEY - Motorists will be in for additional detours when the Arizona Department of Transportation closes two more freeway interchanges this month along Interstate 17.

ADOT will shut the southbound Interstate 17 off-ramp at Union Hills Drive/Yorkshire Drive at 9 p.m. Sunday. ADOT is recommending the southbound Deer Valley Road exit as an alternative.

One week later, on June 28 at 9 p.m., ADOT will shut the northbound I-17 on-ramp at Utopia Road, which essentially serves as the northbound on-ramp from Yorkshire Drive.

To get onto the freeway, drivers will use the northbound Deer Valley Road on-ramp.

Both closures are expected to last about a year to allow progress on construction along I-17 between Loop 101 and Carefree Highway. The project is scheduled for completion in late 2009.

When ADOT completes its project, the two-lane stretch of I-17 north of Loop 101 will be widened by two additional lanes in each direction, including northbound and southbound carpool lanes. There will also be new and upgraded interchanges, including one at Jomax Road.

The Jomax Road interchange is nearing its final stage of work.